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DIRECTORATE OF
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INDIA: Request for Soviet support. (Page 1)

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INDIA: Prime Minister Gandhi has asked Premier Kosygin for Soviet support should India find it necessary to take unilateral military action against Pakistan [REDACTED]

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Kosygin has yet to respond [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Mrs. Gandhi believes the Soviet attitude is the key to India's future actions. [REDACTED]
India is seeking Soviet support as a guard against Chinese intervention in an Indo-Pakistani war.

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The USSR believes that only China and the West would profit from a renewal of Indo-Pakistani hostilities. From the outset of the present crisis, Moscow has been cautioning both sides against precipitate actions. The Soviets, therefore, will probably react to Mrs. Gandhi's request for support with further pleas for restraint and promises of renewed pressures on the Pakistanis. On 8 and 9 June, the Soviets again spoke out critically about West Pakistan's handling of the situation in the East wing, and Soviet Premier Kosygin probably made the same points privately in his meeting with the Pakistani ambassador in Moscow on 22 June.

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